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Halle (D92) 1-29 July

a. At the beginning of July 1947 there were two armored units in Halle. Most of these troops, equipped chiefly with T-34 tanks as well as with horse-drawn and motorized artillery, had departed by the end of July. It is believed that they are now in the Letzlinger Heide area, northwest of Magdeburg.

Between 1 and 29 July there was a noticeable increase in MVD personnel in Halle. There are now at least 1,000 MVD men, wearing green caps, in the town. Many of them arrived in groups on the Kuslin-Erfurt train. The MVD commander is Colonel (fnu) Kusnetsov; his deputy in Merseburg is Colonel (fnu) Mihailov.

Weissenfels (J99) July

The 47th Guards Rifle Division was shifted to the Magdeburg area during July. These troops have abandoned the wearing of the Guards jacket insignia (gold rimmed red flag on a white background).

Erfurt (J36) 11-13 July

A trainload of fifteen old model T-34 tanks with flame throwing equipment was seen in Erfurt on 11 July. Originally scheduled to proceed to Eisenach, it was redirected during the night of 12-13 July to Langensalza (J08) via Gotha.

Ohrdruf (J15) 10-29 July

Between 10 and 19 July, eighteen trainloads of tanks were unloaded at Ohrdruf and Krawinkel (J79). An armored corps followed these tanks to Ohrdruf in late July but up to 29 July no maneuvers had taken place. Eight batteries (four guns each) of heavy AA left Ohrdruf on 18 July and are now in position in the woods near the zone border in the Leinefelde-Heiligenstadt area (C71-61).

Comment:

two armored divisions

at Ohrdruf during this period.)

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5. Naumburg (J89) July

a. The town commander of Naumburg is Lt. Col. Mesterov; MVD chief is Major Tebekin.

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6. Bad Salzungen (H74) July

The Herfa ammunition dump, located in a potash mine near Gerstungen, northwest of Bad Salzungen, has been evacuated. Artillery ammunition was shipped in the direction of Halle. Another dump in Wolkramshausen (D01) also has been evacuated. This latter dump held artillery and AT ammunition.

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7. Leithain (L81) 24 July

The troop training area was occupied during mid-July. Ammunition was delivered on 24 July.

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8. Chemnitz (K66) Late July

Only administrative troops have been observed in Chemnitz.

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9. Dresden area Late July

a. Weixdorf (F29) airfield is occupied by a fighter aircraft training school with approximately sixty fighter planes.

b. Klotzsche (F29) houses an artillery regiment with 150 mm guns as well as the headquarters of an armored unit presently in training at Königsbrück.

c. Übigau (F19) is being used by a motorized infantry regiment and an armored unit.

d. Grossenhain (A01) expects staff arrivals and the Landratsamt and other buildings are being vacated to make room for them.

e. Königsbrück (A31) training area is occupied by a division of 12-15,000 men including tank, artillery and mortar units which had been stationed in Dresden.

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10. Wasungen (H83) In mid-July 1947, approximately 8,000 Soviet infantrymen were sent to Wasungen. These troops, said to be war veterans retained by German personnel in the USSR, came from Tiraspol, near Odessa.

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11. Eisenach-Ruhla (H76-85) area

Shortly after 25 July, four armored units, each comprising 250 tanks, were to be shifted from Gravesmühlen (F39) to the Eisenach-Ruhla area. The tanks, manned by four men, are reported to be comparable in performance to the Stalin type but were not employed during the war.

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12. Magdeburg-Stendal-Salzwedel

Approximately 6,000 troops stationed in Frankfurt/ Oder were transferred to the Magdeburg-Stendal-Salzwedel area during July.

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13. Stendal (Y-35) Late July

a. The Hindenburg Barracks house an infantry regiment with horse-drawn vehicles; another infantry regiment, also horse-drawn, is in the Taunentzien Barracks. Eight Soviet generals reside in the town. It is reported that the top strength at Stendal will be approximately 38,000 men.

b. Stendal airfield is occupied by a fighter unit. Twenty-six single-engine aircraft were seen on the field, twelve of them being LA-5's. There is moderate flight activity, including the towing of targets for air practice.

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14. Meissen (F09) Late July

Approximately 4,000 infantrymen occupy the Hindenburg Barracks. The Hotel Imperial houses an armored workshop.

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15. Eisenach area (H76): Late July

The 241st and 253rd Divisions (infantry, engineers and artillery) are in the Eisenach-Gross Inselberg area.

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16. Erfurt-Jena-Sonneberg-Saalfeld Region Late July

The Second Army occupies the Erfurt-Jena-Sonneberg-Saalfeld region, with three squadrons of fighter and bomber planes.

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17. Weimar (J57) Late July

The 211th and 314th Divisions, with artillery units, are in the Weimar area.

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